
Coastal Grants Program - Frequently Asked Questions

Can non-profits that own land apply for grants to do restoration projects on their land?

This will be a case-by-case basis issue and depend on the details of the project itself. Non-profits will not be able to apply for funding for this type of project. However, if the property they own has a conservation easement or lease held by a governmental agency in perpetuity, that agency could apply for funds for restoration projects on that property. The agency could also list the non-profit as a partner, if the non-profit were to do the actual restoration work. Again, this will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis due to the public interest and public access requirements stated in our program guidance provided to the LMCP by NOAA.

Can out of state non-profit organizations apply for funding?

Yes. Any non-profit organization with 501(c)3 status can apply for non-construction projects or partner with a governmental agency on construction projects. However the project must occur within the Coastal Program area.

Can I conduct a project on federally owned land, i.e. National Lakeshore property?

Yes, non-construction (306) projects only. This may include research and educational programs, for example. However, any programs or projects conducted on federal property must have written permission and be considered a public benefit.

Are habitat (wetland, prairie, etc.) restoration projects construction (306A) or non-construction (306) projects?

These projects are considered to be construction projects (306A) and therefore follow the guidelines and principles established by NOAA. These projects must occur on public land or land for which there is a lease or conservation easement held by a public entity, and must also have public access.

Are land acquisition projects considered to be a 306A project?

Yes. Follow all of the application requirements for construction projects.

What can be used as match for a project?

Three types of match are allowable: (1) Cash, (2) In-kind services, and (3) Donated services/goods.

- (1) Cash includes salaries, travel expenses (at not more than the approved state rate-see application), and purchase of equipment, supplies and other reasonable items associated with the projects.
- (2) An 'in-kind' match includes the use of equipment, supplies, land or other commodity already owned by the applicant or the use of items or staff donated by a third party. Partnerships that include meaningful private contributions as part of the local match are encouraged.



- (3) Gifts and donations are acceptable, but only if they are made during the grant period. In-kind match cannot begin accruing until after the grant agreement is signed and NOAA gives final approval. Volunteer time used as an in-kind match must be charged at the rate paid for the type of work being done or at the rate paid for minimum wage (\$5.15/hour). For example, the time an attorney spends doing data entry work for a project is charged at the rate paid to data entry operators. If the attorney volunteers legal work for the project, the attorney's volunteer time is charged at the rate paid an attorney.

What do I need to submit for a complete application?

1. Application
2. Statements or Documents on Meeting Ranking Criteria
non-construction/construction **OR** land acquisition
3. Eligibility Questionnaire
4. 306A – Construction Assurances
Title Opinion
Affidavit of Public Ownership
or
5. 306 – Non-Construction Assurances

How do I get my application in on time?

USPS, Fed Ex, UPS, etc. to: November 15, 2003

(any deliveries that require a signature must be delivered by the end of the business day on Friday November 14th, 2003)

Lake Michigan Coastal Program
DNR – Division of Soil Conservation
402 W. Washington, Rm. W265
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Hand Delivery Only: By 4:00 p.m. Friday- November 14, 2003

Lake Michigan Coastal Program
Indiana Dunes State Park
Enforcement Building
1600 North 25 East
Chesterton, Indiana